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in the chair, whereby the backrest conforms to the shape of the back of the person.

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(Amended) The backrest of claim 1 wherein the flexion of the vertically extending members conforms to the shape of the back of the person as the position of the back of the person with respect to the backrest is adjusted.

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5. (Amended) The backrest of claim 1 wherein the frame comprises an outer peripheral portion and the peripheral portion surrounds a central portion in which the vertically extending members are positioned.

6. (Amended) The backrest of claim 5 wherein the back rest has a front and a back and the vertically extending members engage the support shell only at the top and the bottom whereby the vertically extending members support the back of the person without engaging any structural member positioned behind the vertically extending members.

✓ Please cancel claim 7, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 11 and 14 to read as follows:

11. (Amended) A one-piece backrest for supporting a person's back, the backrest comprising:

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- (a) a shell having a top and a bottom; and
 - (b) at least two slats formed integrally with the frame, said slats extending between the top and the bottom, wherein each slat is resilient so as to be responsive to a force applied to it by the person's back to produce a responsive force.

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14. (Amended) A backrest for attachment to a chair having a seat, the backrest comprising:

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- (a) a support structure having a top and a bottom; and
- (b) a plurality of vertically extending members, said vertically extending members being laterally spaced apart for at least a portion of their height to permit independent movement of adjacent vertically extending members, wherein each of the vertically extending members supports a longitudinal section of at least the lumbar region of a person seated on the chair without engaging a supplemental support member.
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Please cancel claim 15 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claim:

22. (New) The backrest of claim 1 wherein the support shell and the vertically extending members are formed integrally.
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